

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 SR-02 ORM-03 AID-20 M-03 A-01 OPR-02 SY-10

RSR-01 IO-12 /164 W

----- 056192

R 141141 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3150

INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MOPS, BY, TZ

SUBJECT: FIGHTING IN SOUTHERN BURUNDI

1. SUMMARY. SKETCHY INFO. AVAILABLE DAR ES SALAAM INDICATES FIGHTING IN SOUTHERN BURUNDI WAS CONTINUING UNTIL AT LEAST EVENING MAY 13. SOME WOUNDED HUTU HAVE ARRIVED IN KIGOMA. ALTHOUGH SOME BURUNDI REFUGEES RESIDENT IN TANZANIA MAY BE TAKING PART IN ATTACKS, AT PRESENT WE HAVE NO HARD INFORMATION TO THIS EFFECT. EMBASSY HAS NO REASON TO SUSPECT TANZANIAN COMPLICITY WITH OR ENCOURAGEMENT FOR SUCH POSSIBLE ACTIVITY. END SUMMARY.

2. ALTHOUGH INFO. AVAILABLE TANZANIA ON SITUATION IN BURUNDI IS NECESSARILY SKETCHY, FOLLOWING COMMENTS, PARTICULARLY THOSE KIGOMA REGIONAL COMMISSIONER NDOBHO, MAY SHED SOME USEFUL
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LIGHT ON MATTER.

3. MAY 14 DAR PRESS CARRIES ACCOUNTS BY BURUNDI REFUGEES INJURED IN FIGHTING WHO HAVE BEEN FOR TREATMENT TO KIGOMA, TANZANIAN VILLAGE ON LAKE TANGANYIKA SOUTH OF BURUNDI. INJURED BURUNDI CLAIM FOUR VILLAGES -- NYANZA LAC, MABANDA, BUKEMBA, AND MAGARA -- WERE CAPTURED BY REBEL FORCES. ONE REBEL WHO SAID HE CAME FROM NYANZA LAC CLAIMED REBELS SEIZED NYANZA LAC CAMP AND ARMS AND KILLED NEARLY ALL BURUNDI SOLDIERS AT POST. HE REPORTEDLY ADDED THAT NO BURUNDI REFUGEES FROM TANZANIA TOOK PART IN ATTACK WHICH EMANATED FROM ZAIRE AND RWANDA.

4. IN PHONE CONVERSATIONS MAY 13 WITH DAR PRESS, NDOBHO EMPHASIZED THAT NO BURUNDI REFUGEES IN TANZANIA WERE TAKING PART IN ATTACKS. TANZANIAN OFFICIALS INSPECTED BORDER MAY 13 AND REPORTED EVERYTHING WAS QUIET. NDOBHO NOTED TANZANIAN SECURITY FORCES WERE SENT TO BORDER AREA FOLLOWING BURUNDI ATTACK ON TANZANIAN VILLAGES LAST MARCH.

5. IN TELCON MAY 14 WITH LOCAL NEWSMAN, NDOBHO SAID AS OF EVENING MAY 13 25 HUTU, ALL WITH GUNSHOT WOUNDS, HAD BEEN HANDED OVER AT BORDER TO GO FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT. HUTUS CARRYING WOUNDED COMRADES IMMEDIATELY HEADED BACK TO AREA WHERE FIGHTING IS ALLEGEDLY TAKING PLACE. ACCORDING TO NDOBHO, WOUNDED HUTU, WHO ARE CLEARLY MEMBERS OF FIGHTING FORCE, REPORT THAT HEAVY FIGHTING IS CONTINUING. NDOBHO CONFIRMED IN TELCON THAT THERE IS NO SIGN OF BURUNDI TROOPS NEAR BORDER.

6. BURUNDI AMBASSADOR TO TANZANIA, PROTAIS MANGONA, WENT TO BUJUMBURA MAY 10 AND RETURNED DAR ES SALAAM MAY 12. HE TOLD LOCAL NEWSMAN MAY 14 THAT "NOT SINGLE INCH OF BURUNDI TERRITORY IS UNDER CONTROL OF REBELS" AND EVERYTHING IS NOW QUIET IN BURUNDI.

7. COMMENT: SWAHILID DAILY HAS HEADLINED EVENTS IN BURUNDI FOR PAST TWO DAYS WHILE ENGLISH DAILY PUT STORY IN HEADLINE TODAY. EMBASSY HAS NO INFORMATION AT THIS TIME WHICH WOULD SUGGEST INVOLVEMENT OF BURUNDI REFUGEES IN TANZANIA IN CURRENT UPRISING. HOWEVER, MANY HUTU REFUGEES FROM BURUNDI ARE LOCATED JUST ACROSS BORDER FROM WHERE REBELLION
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TAKING PLACE. ALSO, WE KNOW IN MARCH INCIDENT HUTU REFUGEES IN TANZANIA HAD CROSSED INTO BURUNDI TO STIR UP TROUBLE (DAR A-96, MAY 8, 1973). THERE NO RPT NO EVIDENCE TANZANIA HAS SUPPLIED ANY WEAPONS TO REBEL HUTUS AND WE CAN THINK OF NO REASON WHY TANGOV SHOULD DO SO.
CARTER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973DARES01659
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: DAR ES SALAAM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730544/aaaajeap.tel
Line Count: 116
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06-Aug-2001 by boyleja>; APPROVED <31-Oct-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980211
Subject: FIGHTING IN SOUTHERN BURUNDI
TAGS: MOPS, PFOR, BY, TZ
To: AF
BRUSSELS
BUJUMBURA
KAMPALA
KIGALI
KINSHASA
LONDON

NAIROBI
SECSTATE WASHDC

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005